

The Pattern, The People, And The Places of Reconstruction

(Nehemiah 3)

- I. The Pattern of Reconstruction (Review of last weeks message.)
 - A. The Gate of Salvation - The Sheep Gate (Vs. 1)
 - B. The Gate of Seeking and Saving - The Fish Gate (Vs. 3)
 - C. The Gate of Statutes - The Old Gate (Vs. 6)
 - D. The Gate of Self-abasement - The Valley Gate (Vs. 13)
 - E. The Gate of Sanitization - The Dung Gate (Vs. 14)
 - F. The Gate of the Spirit - The Fountain Gate (Vs. 15)
 - G. The Gate of the Scriptures - The Water Gate (Vs. 26)
 - H. The Gate of the Struggle - The Horse Gate (Vs. 28)
 - I. The Gate of the Second Coming - The East Gate (Vs. 29)
 - J. The Gate of Sentencing - The Miphkad (Judgment) Gate (Vs. 31)
- II. The People of Reconstruction
- III. The Places of Reconstruction
 - A. Instruction to Rebuilding
 - B. Insight into Rebuilding

The Pattern the People & the Place of Reconstruction
(Neh 3:1-2) Warren Wiersbe said about the many and varying people in the church and the work of God "Some people in the church are constructionalists, they're helping to get the job done. Others are destructionalists, they are busy tearing things down. The third group are obstructionalists, they create problems for the people who are trying to do the work." Who are you? Who ever we are Nehemiah 3 shows us not only who we should be like, but how we should proceed in the rebuilding and reconstructing our christian lives. I want you to notice some things.

The Pattern of Reconstruction Review

The pattern was last week's message but I want to

- A. The Gate of Salvation - The Sheep Gate vs 1
The gate where sacrifices for sin came in Picture of Jesus. Do you know him today?
- B. The Gate of Seeking & Saving - The Fish Gate (vs 3) - The gate of evangelism. Jesus said I will make you fishers of men. Does it need repair?
- C. The Gate of Statutes - The Old Gate (vs 6)
God told Jeremiah to tell the people to walk in the old paths. Have you laid aside the ^{statutes}?
- D. The Gate of Self-abasement - The Valley Gate (vs 13) - Philp 2:5 Let this mind be in you
Humble yourself before the mighty hand of God

E. The Gate of Sanitization - The Dung Gate (Vs 14). - Is there sin and wickedness in your life that needs to be carried out?

F. The Gate of the Spirit - The fountain Gate (Vs 15) Jesus said of those that drink of Him out of his belly flow. This is the Spirit. Is He in you?

G. The Gate of the Scriptures - The Water Gate (Vs 26) - Jesus cleanses the church by the washing of the water by the word. What role?

H. The Gate of the Struggle - The Horse Gate (Vs. 28) Are you fighting a battle or are you and the enemy traveling in the same ^{Direction}?

I. The Second Coming - The East Gate (Vs. 29). Have you forgotten of the imminent return of Jesus. How will He find you?

J. The Gate of Sentencing - The Miphkad (Judgment) Gate (Vs 31) There will be a judgment seat to come before. Are you ready?

II. The People of Reconstruction.

I want you to see all the many and varied people that came together under one common cause to rebuild these walls.

Every man had an appointed place. And what is interesting is that there were very few shirkers. "No my Job." Or grumblers "I don't want to do that." The people were united.

Vs 1 The High Priest - the religious leaders headed in the work not afraid to get their hands dirty. All the priests rolling up sleeves

1)people of God intermarried and were commanded in verse 11 to separate from these heathen wives. They were backsliden away from God. Vs 31 sons of Harim. Back to Nehemiah 3:11. This son of Harim was restored. But back into fellowship and involved with the work. He is the God of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd chance. All were different but yet all applied themselves to the work. Note Verse 5, some didn't. Some nobles didn't apply to the work. They did nothing. I am reminded of 1 Corinthians 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

to work. In VS 12-19 we find the rulers involved with the work, statesmen politicians it wasn't below them to jump in and work. VS 8 The crafts men, These are your every day workers and tradesmen they lent their hands to the work. VS 12. If some of you women feel left out, here we have the daughters Halohesh lending their labor to the work. Notice in VS 2, 5, 7, Outsiders, Jerico isn't that the place cursed by God and here we find them working right next to the priest Tecoites in VS 5 outsiders not Jews doing the work. VS 7 Gihonites they duped God's people in to treaty, previously enemies of God, now right there in the middle of the work.

There were also others more willing to work than others. VS 11 Malchijah repaired not just his wall but further. We find the same in verse 19, + 21. Going beyond. VS 11 Malchijah you may not recognize his name, but turn back to Ezra 10: 31-44. People of God intermarries

III. The Place of Reconstruction.

The question is how do you start who do you put where in the construction project. In the wording of our chapter

A. Instructions to Rebuilding -

VS 10 over against his house, VS 23 over against his house. VS 28 over against his house. VS 30. over against his chamber. The

place to begin is at home. Every man
was to work on the wall nearest his home.
The reconstruction of our church starts
not here but at our homes. Same was true
for the early church in Acts 1:8 "Ye
shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem,
Judea, Samaria to the ends of earth. But
start in Jerusalem. The church is no
stranger than the home. Start building
there. With family altar & worship + Bible
B. Insight to Rebuilding. In Alan
Redpath's book on Nehemiah he says
The Hebrew language is a descriptive
language. Names have meaning. 4 names
Vs 10 Jedaiah = "Invoker of God"
Jedaiah was a man of prayer. A prayer
warrior. What about our prayer life.
Vs 23 Benjamin = "Son of my right hand"
"the one who is there for help, the one who
can protect me. The Son of Protection building
a wall of Protection. Hanes your Protection
Haste world infliates your home. Vs 29
Zadok = justice or integrity Hanes the
integrity of your life. Marriage, work, money
IV Closing - The Pattern, the People
the Places of Reconstruction. We have
everything we need. Where has the Lord
pointed at for you to begin to labor.

- 1) Alan Redpath - 'If you examine the record of those who repaired over against their house, you'll be impressed by the significance of their names. Each of their names has a meaning'
- 2) verse 29 'Zadok the son of Immer', and it's his father 'Immer', which means 'talkative'. Is talkativeness a problem? Especially among God's people. This is maybe not so much a wall that we want to build, talkative, this is a wall that we want to knock down and build up integrity in our conversation as well as our actions. Is there any greater weapon that is dangerous in the hand of a Christian or in his mouth, than the tongue - it is a fire that ignites the depths of hell! How do you use your tongue in the home? Do you go away today from this place and lash out at everybody that you don't like or you don't agree with that has rubbed you up the wrong way? verse 30: 'Meshullam the son of Berechiah over against his chamber'. Because this man Meshullam lived, we read, in a one bedroomed apartment - his chamber - not just his house here, but his chamber. He could have been a man that was very humble, what I mean is: an ordinary, working class, fella who felt insignificant in the whole of the universe. He wasn't a big hitter, as we would say, and maybe he had a very very small part to play in the work of the Lord - he only had a chamber, not even a house, an apartment we would call it today. Maybe he thought his work was nothing worth talking about or bothering with, it didn't really count - but we read here of 'Meshullam the son of Berechiah', and 'Berechiah' means 'devoted'. He was a little man that lived in a little house, but he devoted all that he had and all that he was to the work of God, and that's all God required of him. Are you devoted to the work of the Lord?